Shared learning

Theme of the week

UNAVAILABILITY OF SLINGS

Date

30/09/2024

Background and context

Some of the patients were kept in bed because their slings were unavailable and did not come back from the laundry.

What happened?

Some of the patients were kept in bed because their slings were unavailable and did not come back from the laundry.
It was confirmed that the unavailability of slings were due to laundry's delay in collecting slings for washing. According to them, this was a one off. All patient's family were informed except for one that was unavailable at that time.
New slings were requested but at the time of arrival it was too late to put the patients in the wheelchairs, the patients were kept in bed and re-positioned as per guideline.

What should have happened?

Laundry department should have made aware that some of the laundry items were not collected the week before so that the ward may be able to find a replacement while the other slings have not been washed.

Ward staff to make sure that patient's should have 2 slings each (1 for patient use and 1 spare).

What we will do differently next time

Department should properly communicate if there's any problem/concerns in their area to prevent delays/incidents like this.

Ward staff also need to immediately raise concern especially if it is regarding patient safety.

What have we learned?

Effective communication and immediately raising concerns can help reduce these kind of incidents.

☑ I have read this

Name	Job role	Signature